

PRESS RELEASE

451 West Street, Suite 2 Amherst MA 01002-2999 Voice (413) 253-4300 Fax (413) 253-4347 TDD (413) 253-4590

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 30, 2006 CONTACT: Maril Alsup Public Affairs Specialist (413) 253-4314 maril.alsup@ma.usda.gov

Warren Public Library Welcomes Congressman Neal, Senator Brewer, Representative Smola and USDA Rural Development



Warren, MA – The Warren Public Library and its Vice President, Mildred Ann Gushue received a check for \$24,876 today. The USDA Community Facilities Grant was personally delivered by Congressman Richard Neal, State Senator Stephen Brewer, Representative Todd Smola and USDA Rural Development State Director, David Tuttle. The library will use the federal grant to replace the gutters, downspouts and flashing on its Historic building which sits on the Town Common.

The Warren Public Library is a small, non-profit organization which provides public library services to the town. The group is supported with an annual town appropriation and a small contribution from the State Library Fund as well as donations, fines and copier fees.

"This money will allow the Library to make necessary repairs to this historic building," said Senator Brewer, "Libraries are the cornerstone of our democracy, providing equal access to information for all, and I applaud USDA Rural Development for recognizing the importance of the project."

USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities Program, from which the funds for the grant were provided, aims to enhance the quality of life and opportunities in rural communities by developing essential community facilities for public use.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for all rural Americans. USDA Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. In Fiscal Year 2005, USDA Rural Development provided over \$58.5 million in assistance to Massachusetts' rural communities and families.

###